AMENDMENTS TO THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 1, line 2, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--This application is a division of co-pending Application No.09/775,831, filed on February 5, 2001 and issued as U.S. Patent No. 6,675,445. Application No.09/775,831 is a Continuation of PCT International Application No. PCT/EP99/05626 filed on August 3, 1999 under 35 U.S.C. § 371. The entire contents of each of the above-identified applications are hereby incorporated by reference.--

Please replace the paragraph beginning at page 17, line 4, with the following rewritten paragraph:

--Referring now to Fig. 1 there is illustrated a section view through a shroud, the section line running in a vertical plane perpendicular to the direction in which [[the]] a cross-linked mineral wool blanket is discharged from the shroud. The shroud 10 consists of walls 12 as well as front wall (not shown) and a rear wall 14. These walls define the shroud with a substantially rectangular cross-section. Preferably the walls 12, 14 are located around rotatable rollers and execute a movement about the complete shroud 10 or sectionwise about portions of the shroud so that the walls pass perpendicular scrapers arranged outside of the shroud for removing any mineral wool fibers sticking to the walls of the shroud. The precise geometry and configuration of the shroud is, however, not

decisive to the gist of the invention; it merely being important that the rotating walls of the shroud 12, 14 are sealed off well from the fiber conveyor means to prevent any additional leakages into the shroud.--